

inclined to assist in such an enterprise, which would tend greatly to the security of the rising cities on their coasts, and of their trade.

An attack of this sort would also be the best mode of defending British Columbia, and of protecting British commerce in the Indian and Chinese seas ; but all would hinge on the establishment of a defensive position in the West Indies. Without such an attack on California, a blockading squadron on the west coast of America, in the Pacific, with a fortified dockyard in support, would be necessary for the security of the commerce in the Pacific and Indian seas.

It will thus be seen that the primary effect of these fortified naval depôts in the Atlantic, on the east coast of America, would be to assist the blockade of the American coast, and to that extent to secure the commerce of Great Britain with other parts of the world, to protect the line of communications from Great Britain to her colonies, and more especially to the British North American possessions, and to a great extent to sever California from the United States, and localise the war in the Atlantic, instead of allowing it to spread all over the world, to all the colonies, and wherever British commerce might extend.

Backed also by the army in England, these fortified stations would have a marked result in compelling the maintenance of strong garrisons, which, in the aggregate, would not amount probably to less